

House Bill 594 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Sims of the 169th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a new charter for the City of Willacoochee, approved
2 December 22, 1953 (Ga. L. 1953, Nov.-Dec. Sess., p. 3039), as amended, particularly by an
3 Act approved March 25, 1980 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3941), so as to revise the method of filling
4 vacancies; to provide for related matters; to provide for submission under Section 5 of the
5 federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act creating a new charter for the City of Willacoochee, approved December 22, 1953
10 (Ga. L. 1953, Nov.-Dec. Sess., p. 3039), as amended, particularly by an Act approved
11 March 25, 1980 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3941), is amended by revising subsection (b) of Section 203
12 as follows:

13 "(b) In the event that the office of mayor or council member shall become vacant upon the
14 incumbent's death, resignation, forfeiture of office, or removal from office in any manner
15 authorized by this charter or the general laws of the State of Georgia and there is one year
16 or less remaining in such person's term of office, the city council or those remaining shall
17 appoint a qualified individual to fill the balance of the unexpired term of such person. In
18 the event that there is more than one year remaining in such person's term of office, the
19 vacancy shall be filled by special election called and held in accordance with Code
20 Section 21-2-540 of the O.C.G.A. In the event that all seats on the council are vacant, such
21 vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 36-30-13."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 The governing authority of the City of Willacoochee shall through its legal counsel cause this
24 Act to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as

25 amended, no later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor
26 or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

27 **SECTION 3.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.